

Our Lady Of La Vang

The easy way to grasp the ins and outs of Catholicism Catholicism For Dummies is not a catechism or religious textbook, but a casual, down-to-earth introduction for Catholics and non-Catholics. It gives commonsense explanations of Catholic weddings, Baptisms, funerals, Confirmations, and First Communions. You'll also discover other important topics that can help you better understand the Catholic culture—from morality and devotions to worship and liturgy. There are more than one billion Catholics in the world, and each one shares a foundational set of basic beliefs and practices that he or she follows. Some of the teachings of Catholicism are thousands of years old, while others are more recent. So what is the Catholic culture like and what do they believe? Catholicism For Dummies answers these and many other questions. Various stances within American Catholicism today Covers the death of John Paul II and the succession of Pope Benedict XVI, who has supported the return of the Latin Mass among congregations who desire to celebrate it Expanded information on baptism, confirmation, and the other sacraments New information about the priesthood and religious life today Twenty-first-century issues and questions modern Catholics face, including gay marriage, abortion, and the death penalty

Catholicism For Dummies presents a rich tapestry and history of the Catholic faith—from devotions to doctrines. This intelligent and faithful look at Catholicism will open your eyes to this religion and answer many of the questions you may have about it.

Miracles give hope to the hopeless and exemplify the intersection of the divine and the mundane. They have shaped world history and continue to influence us through their presence in films, television, novels, and popular culture. This encyclopedia provides a unique resource on the philosophical, historical, religious, and cross-cultural conceptions of miracles that cut across denominational lines.

- Provides the most authoritative exposition of miracles across history currently available in English—a highly useful resource for inquirers on miraculous phenomenon
- Goes far beyond discussions of specific miracle stories to explore their provenance, cultic aspects, philosophical underpinnings, and psychological roots
- Covers some of the major aspects of miraculous phenomena through entries drawn from the humanities, social and behavioral sciences, and the hard sciences, particularly physics and natural biology
- Presents accounts of miracles with a range of expert interpretations of those events, thereby supporting the Common Core State Standards for History and English Language Arts, CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-12.3
- Supplies more than a

dozen primary documents—each introduced by a headnote—that give students historic accounts of miracles and related texts for in-depth analysis

Both a memoir and a call to action, this book is a gripping account of the author's quest to eradicate landmines from the face of the earth. Heidi Kühn's commitment to fostering peace and raising awareness has been a driving force in her life—from her early days as a student at the University of California, Berkeley, to her time as a reporter in Juneau, Alaska, covering the Exxon Valdez oil spill and US-Russia relations. After overcoming a potentially terminal cancer diagnosis that threatened everything she held dear, Heidi became determined to rid the world of another form of cancer that has plagued the world for decades—landmines—in regions as far-flung as Croatia Vietnam, and Afghanistan. Inspired by her work of the late Princess Diana, Heidi began the humanitarian organization Roots of Peace from the basement off her Northern California home. She gained the support of famed Napa Valley vintners Robert Mondavi and Mike Grgich, and soon her mines-to-vines mission began to take hold. In this powerful memoir, Heidi tells the Roots of Peace story, guiding the reader from the early days in which she built her vision to her current presence on the global stage, where she has worked with presidents, prime ministers, landmine survivors, and religious leaders from around the world to spread a message of peace and

recovery. In the years since the founding of Roots of Peace, its agricultural projects have made tremendous progress to fight against landmines, revitalizing devastated land and uplifting the lives of countless people in the process.

Through recalling her journey, Heidi reveals the remarkable change an ordinary person can inspire. Her story is one of faith, healing, and the compassion needed to grow a more peaceful world. Breaking Ground will encourage you to do the extraordinary and help plant the seeds of change for a brighter future.

This Little White Book is meant to help you enjoy six minutes a day in prayer during these next 50 days of the Easter season. The key is the right-hand page. On that page each day (except Sundays), we'll walk through the Sunday Gospels of Cycle B (this year's liturgical cycle).

Please note that the content of this book primarily consists of articles available from Wikipedia or other free sources online. Pages: 190. Chapters: Our Lady of Guadalupe, Montserrat, Shrines to the Virgin Mary, Beauraing, Our Lady of La Salette, Roman Catholic Marian churches, Our Lady of Lourdes, Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes, Status of Me ugorje, Velankanni Town, Lourdes apparitions, Pochayiv Lavra, Basilica of Our Lady of Good Health, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Penrhys, Our Lady of Doncaster, Knock Shrine, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Assumption of the Blessed

Virgin Mary, Walsingham, Our Lady of Walsingham, La Rabida Monastery, Our Lady of Westminster, Theotokos Fyodorovskaya, Our Lady of Me ugorje, Fatima, Portugal, Shrine of Our Lady of Europe, Sanctuary of Our Lady of Polsi, Basilica of Our Lady of the Pillar, Black Madonna of Cz stochowa, Queen of the Holy Rosary Memorial Shrine, Mary's Tomb, Holy Hill National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians, House of the Virgin Mary, Manarcad Church, St Mary's Collegiate Church, Haddington, Shrine of Our Lady of Madhu, Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Ngome Marian Shrine, Ain Ebel, Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Telgte, Whitekirk and Tynninghame, Carfin Grotto, Jezzine, Maria Taferl, Basilica della Santa Casa, Our Lady of Manaoag, Lourdes water, Basilica of Our Lady of Zapopan, Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, Immaculata Church, Our Lady of Ipswich, Necedah Shrine, Our Lady of Kazan, Zarvanytsia, St. Mary Catholic Church (Wilmington, North Carolina), Our Lady of Lebanon, Our Lady of Mantara, Basilica of Omni-mediatrix of All Glories, Our Lady of Snow Kallikulam, La Vang, Our Lady of Charity, Shrine of Nostra Signora della Guardia, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Extremadura, Marizell Basilica, Basilica of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Aparecida, Bechouat, Supra I Orthodox Monastery, Santa Maria de Guadalupe, Dzhublyk, Life-giving Spring, Rosary Basilica, ..

Who is to be the primary evangelizer of Asia? What Asian forms of worship and prayer are both authentically Christian and culturally appropriate? In *Our Own Tongues* is reading for anyone interested in the emergence of "world Christianity" and its future in the 21st century.--From publisher's description.

Mary has made herself all to all, and opens her merciful heart to all, that all may receive of her fullness; the sick, health; those in affliction, comfort; the sinner, pardon; and God, glory. St. Bernard (1090-1153) *See How She Loves Us* is an amazing collection of apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Ranging across twenty-three countries and two millennia the visions chronicled here show Mary's deep love for mankind, her Son, and the Church. Joan Carroll Cruz has meticulously researched fifty apparitions of Our Lady. Discover lesser known apparitions like Our Lady of La Vang in Vietnam and Our Lady of Las Lajas in Columbia, and learn more about the visions of Mary at Fatima, Lourdes, and Guadalupe. Approved by the local bishops or the Vatican, these miracles show Mary's great love for man, her constant intercession on our behalf, and her role as protector of the Church. Perfect for Catholics and non-Catholics alike, *See How She Loves Us* sheds light on the many mysteries of the Catholic Church and Catholics' love for the Blessed Mother.

Make the saints part of your everyday life. Who would have guessed that there is a

patron saint for astronauts, or zookeepers, or the internet? You know that you can pray to St. Blaise to help protect you from a sore throat, but which saint will protect you from a snakebite or from being struck by lightning? With hundreds of listings of patron saints, you'll find heavenly helpers for just about anything and everything. You'll meet the patron saints of bankers, bakers, florists, plumbers, and highway construction crews. You'll learn which saint to invoke against headache, toothache, and appendicitis. And you'll discover that there are patron saints to save the whales, for the right-to-life movement, environmentalists, and IT workers. And there are several patron saints for stressed wives and mothers. Each entry explains why the saint is patron of whatever he or she is patron of, includes a summary of the saint's life, and highlights unusual or little-known facts about the saint. The book also includes an index for easy reference.

The Lady of the Angels and Her City recounts Wendy Wright's visitations to her hometown's many Marian churches and shrines. But it is much more than a personal pilgrimage narrative. It offers important glimpses into the history of Los Angeles Catholicism, American Catholic culture, and Mary's place in Catholic theology and tradition. It peeks into the heroic labors of the religious orders that went on mission there and the waves of immigrants who have arrived on American shores. With Wright, readers will consider: Readers who know the geography of Los Angeles Catholicism will surely enjoy Wright's reflection on familiar places. But there is much here that will fascinate anyone interested in either the history of Christianity in America or devotion to

Mary by those who love her today.

Who doesn't want a liberated life? Jesus offers us liberation as we grow in a Christian spiritual life. But first we need to liberate our concept of Christian Spirituality from ideas that relegate it to Church on Sunday, new age self help, devotional or ascetical practices, or fundamentalist aggression. Traditionally, Christian spirituality liberates Jesus' disciples from personal sin and helps them to challenge sin's social consequences so that once liberated, they will work to liberate others. Christian spirituality (living the Gospel) brings good news for the poor, liberty for the captives, recovery of sight for the blind, and freedom for the oppressed. This is what Jesus came to do, and this is what we as his disciples are called to do as we live our Christian callings in the world. Whether we are at home, work, or play we are called to be Christian. Beyond Piety invites readers to grow in their understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Christ. More than a book on Franciscan or Hispanic Spirituality, this book is about the Christian Spirituality all Christians are called to live. It is about our human and Christian identity and the God we believe in. It is about getting to know the Word of God and letting that Word get to know us. It is about worship and religious devotion and moving beyond piety to Christian action. It is about the call to justice and liberation.

The Road of Hope is a collection of messages written by Vietnamese Cardinal Francis Xavier Van Thuan, who Matthew Kelly calls a modern-day legend. Van Thuan wrote the

manuscript for *The Road of Hope* during his thirteen years of imprisonment (nine of which were spent in isolation cells). He wanted to send a message of encouragement from an imprisoned father to his children. The book contains 1,001 short paragraphs of encouragement and spiritual counsel. The pages of the manuscript were smuggled out of Vietnam while Cardinal Van Thuan was imprisoned and secretly printed as *The Road of Hope*. It was instantly popular with the Vietnam people (both Christians and non-Christians) despite the government's attempts to halt its distribution. Many of the *Boat People* brought this book with them on their perilous journey. The book was translated into English and French, where it also met with instant popularity. Cardinal Van Thuan spent the last fourteen years of his life in Rome, and during that time he was able to revise and edit the book into its present form.

Champions of the Rosary, by bestselling author Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC, tells the powerful story of the history of the Rosary and the champions of this devotion. The Rosary is a spiritual sword with the power to conquer sin, defeat evil, and bring about peace. Read this book to deepen your understanding and love for praying the Rosary. Endorsed by 30 bishops from around the world!

New converts and cradle Catholics alike are often perplexed by the myriad of devotions, traditions, practices, and beliefs that the Catholic Church has accumulated over the past twenty centuries. Why pray to St. Anthony to find something lost? Why

keep a St. Christopher medal in your car? Or why bury a statue of St. Joseph — upside down! — in your yard when selling your house? In Helen Hoffner's lovingly-illustrated, encyclopedic *Catholic Treasures and Traditions*, you'll find succinct – and sometimes amusing – answers to these and hundreds of other questions. This delightful book explains the origin and nature of most of the common traditions of the Catholic Faith, as well as the source and meaning of many of the quaint and obscure ones. From Forty Hours to First Fridays and from Holy Hours to Holy Days, you'll find in these pages an informative, delightful compendium of the Catholic way of life, including information about: Novenas * Penance * Prayers for the Dead * First Fridays * Votive Candles * Religious Medals * St. Francis Statues * Bathtub Madonnas * Holy Cards * Crucifixes * House Blessings * Prayer Corners * Advent Calendars * Jesse Trees * Marian Apparitions * Vestments * Icons * Divine Mercy * The Sacred Heart * The Liturgical Year * Holy Days * Religious Orders * The Holy See * The Roman Curia * The Divine Office * Holy Oils * Genuflecting * Relics * Stations of the Cross * The Sacraments * The Angelus * Litanies * Patron Saints and much more to acquaint you with the many wonderful treasures and traditions of the Catholic Faith!

December 8, 2011. The dissident Vietnamese priest Nguyen Van Ly (age sixty-four) is deported from a rest home in the Archdiocese Hue to the concentration camp Nam Ha in the north of the country. Van Ly, who is half paralyzed after having suffered four strokes, still faces five years in prison for his peaceable struggle against the totalitarian

communist regime--a peaceable struggle he has waged for nearly forty years. We follow Father Ly, a nurse, and his guards through the twenty-four hour ordeal of getting from Hue to Nam Ha via ambulance. Arranged according to the liturgy of the hours, each chapter offers a glimpse into the life of Father Ly. This hagiographic journey, here placed in its context of Advent, offers hope for captive and oppressor. And it is hope especially that makes Father Ly realize his life's struggle for religious freedom is not in vain. Indeed, as a goodwill gesture before President Obama's visit to Vietnam, Father Ly will later be released on May 20, 2016.

600 pages of fascinating facts about everything from science to history to pop culture Did you know the longest mountain range on earth is under water? How about the fact that June was named after Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage? If not, don't worry! You can learn details about these facts and more useful (and useless) trivia in this gigantic collection. With subjects from across the spectrum, read all about the presidents, planets, ball games, and more in six overflowing chapters: Gassy Universe Loaded Science Jamming History Clogged Culture Bursting Sports Flushing Phenomena Whether you're interested in cannibalism, classic movie quotes, or the Milky Way, there is a list, factoid, or timeline for everyone in this epic compendium. You'll never be bored on the toilet (or in the car or in bed) ever again. Crack open the Astonishing Bathroom Reader and read all about everything you didn't think you needed to know!

Weaving Women's Spheres in Vietnam examines the changing status of womanhood in 'traditional', transitional and contemporary Vietnam from anthropological, historical, and

sociological perspectives, focusing particularly on women's active agency in negotiating their own roles in family, religion and community.

The immense process of economic and social transformation currently underway in China and Vietnam is well known and extensively documented. However, less attention has been devoted to the process of Chinese and Vietnamese legal change which is nonetheless critical for the future politics, society and economy of these two countries. In a unique comparative approach that brings together indigenous and international experts, *Asian Socialism and Legal Change* analyzes recent developments in the legal sphere in China and Vietnam. This book presents the diversity and dynamism of this process in China and Vietnam—the impact of socialism, constitutionalism and Confucianism on legal development; responses to change among enterprises and educational and legal institutions; conflicts between change led centrally and locally; and international influences on domestic legal institutions. Core socialist ideas continue to shape society, but have been adapted to local contexts and needs, in some areas more radically than in others. This book is the first systematic analysis of legal change in transitional economies.

An in-depth resource that separates fact from myth about the lives of saints *Saints For Dummies* offers information on famous saints (both men and women) from the Eastern Orthodox, Protestant, and Catholic traditions. With a historical biography on each saint including information on what they are known for, what they did in life to achieve sainthood, and how readers can pray to them in time of need. This easy-to-understand guide reveals that most saints were very common, ordinary, and imperfect human beings with faults and foibles who overcame their shortcomings to become figures of great spiritual and historical

significance. You get a unique glimpse into the lives and the character traits of these righteous men and women, as well as future pending saints. Explains which saints are invoked for specific situations Rev. John Trigilio and Rev. Kenneth Brighenti are the coauthors of *Catholicism For Dummies*, *Women in the Bible For Dummies* and *John Paul II For Dummies* Whether you're a scholar or just curious about the topic, *Saints For Dummies* will have you intrigued and informed from the first page.

Get a taste of the real Vietnam and its people on a sometimes funny, always fascinating journey from the bustling cities to the out of the way villages, into Buddhist monasteries and along the Mekong - a real delight for armchair travellers and those contemplating their own adventure.

This Companion provides a comprehensive overview of American Catholicism's historical development and distinctive features. The essays - all specially commissioned for this volume - highlight the inner diversity of American Catholicism and trace the impact of American Catholics on all aspects of society, including education, social welfare, politics, and intellectual life. The volume also addresses topics of contemporary concern, such as gender and sexuality, arts and culture, social activism, and the experiences of Black, Latinx, Asian-American, and cultural Catholics. Taken together, the essays in this Companion provide context for understanding American Catholicism as it is currently experienced, and help to situate present-day developments and debates within their longer trajectory.

This book provides teachers and catechists with background material on the feasts, memorials, and solemnities on the universal calendar that honor Mary.

See How She Loves Us50 Approved Apparitions of Our LadyTAN Books

Bookmark File PDF Our Lady Of La Vang

A fundamental and well-illustrated reference collection for anyone interested in the role of women in North American religious life.

This comprehensive resource helps catechetical, school, and pastoral leaders prepare for, engage in, and live out the gospel challenges of central feasts, seasons, and milestones of the liturgical year. It also helps them prepare participants, age and grade specific (K-12) and intergenerational, to participate fully in the seasonal prayer services included here: beginning of the school year; All Saints; All Souls; Thanksgiving; Advent; Christmas; Lent/Ash Wednesday; Lent/Reconciliation; the Triduum/Easter; and Mary. There are also resources to engage the “home church” in the praying, serving, and learning about the focus of prayer at home. This is a wonderful resource, filled with invaluable information and guidelines for effective and meaningful parish, school, and home prayer celebrations.

Vietnamese Americans form a unique segment of the new U.S. immigrant population. Uprooted from their homeland and often thrust into poor urban neighborhoods, these newcomers have nevertheless managed to establish strong communities in a short space of time. Most remarkably, their children often perform at high academic levels despite difficult circumstances. *Growing Up American* tells the story of Vietnamese children and sheds light on how they are negotiating the difficult passage into American society. Min Zhou and Carl Bankston draw on research and insights from many sources, including the U.S. census, survey data, and their own observations and in-depth interviews. Focusing on the Versailles Village enclave in New Orleans, one of many newly established Vietnamese communities in the United States, the authors examine the complex skein of family, community, and school influences that shape these children's lives. With no ties to existing ethnic communities,

Vietnamese refugees had little control over where they were settled and no economic or social networks to plug into. *Growing Up American* describes the process of building communities that were not simply transplants but distinctive outgrowths of the environment in which the Vietnamese found themselves. Family and social organizations re-formed in new ways, blending economic necessity with cultural tradition. These reconstructed communities create a particular form of social capital that helps disadvantaged families overcome the problems associated with poverty and ghettoization. Outside these enclaves, Vietnamese children faced a daunting school experience due to language difficulties, racial inequality, deteriorating educational services, and exposure to an often adversarial youth subculture. How have the children of Vietnamese refugees managed to overcome these challenges? *Growing Up American* offers important evidence that community solidarity, cultural values, and a refugee sensibility have provided them with the resources needed to get ahead in American society. Zhou and Bankston also document the price exacted by the process of adaptation, as the struggle to define a personal identity and to decide what it means to be American sometimes leads children into conflict with their tight-knit communities. *Growing Up American* is the first comprehensive study of the unique experiences of Vietnamese immigrant children. It sets the agenda for future research on second generation immigrants and their entry into American society.

Historical accounts and memoirs of the Vietnam War often ignore the participation of nations other than Vietnam and the United States. As a result, few Americans realize that several members of the Southeast Asian Treaty Organization (SEATO), including Australia, allied with South Vietnam during the conflict. By the late 1960s, more than eight thousand Australians

were deployed in the region or providing support to the forces there. In Team 19 in Vietnam, David Millie offers an insightful account of his twelve-month tour with the renowned Australian Army Training Team Vietnam in Quang Tri Province -- a crucial tactical site along the demilitarized zone that was North Vietnam's gateway to the south. Drawing from published and unpublished military documents, his personal diary, and the letters he wrote while deployed, Millie introduces readers to the daily routines, actions, and disappointments of a field staff officer. He discusses his interactions with province senior advisor Colonel Harley F. Mooney and Major John Shalikashvili, who would later become chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff. This firsthand narrative vividly demonstrates the importance of the region and the substantial number of forces engaged there. Few Australian accounts of the Vietnam War exist, and Millie offers a rare glimpse into the year after the Tet offensive, when Presidents Johnson and Nixon both made it clear that the U.S. would withdraw its troops. This important memoir reveals that responsibility for the catastrophe inflicted on Vietnamese civilians is shared by an international community that failed to act effectively in the face of a crisis., reviewing a previous edition or volume

The Real Mary' explores the Mary of the Bible and compares her with the Mary of the Roman Catholic Church in language anyone can read and understand. 'The Real Mary' brings to light the many Marian doctrines of Catholicism and compares them to the infallible Word of God in the Bible. Such topics as Marian apparitions, Mary as Mother of God and queen of Heaven, Mary as ever-virgin, and the doctrines of the Immaculate Conception and Assumption are discussed and compared to the Biblical Mary of Nazareth, mother of Jesus.

In this book Tatiana Zachar Podolinská explores how post-modern Marian devotion represents

both the continuation and restoration of tradition in the modern world. Podolinská illuminates how Mary as a Great Enchantress has colonised the modern world and survived mandatory atheism in communist countries. The resilience of Marian devotion in the face of the secularising forces of modernity is due to how fluidly it mixes pre-modern and ultra-modern elements of beliefs and practices with the grassroot current of post-modern Christianity. At the same time, Podolinská elucidates how Mary has become the voice of peripheral ethnic groups and nations. This book specifically explains the devotion of the post-modern Mary among the Roma in Slovakia and explores how this community copes with marginalisation, creating islands of marginal centrality. By approaching the ethnicised and enculturated forms of the Virgin Mary (i.e. Chocolate Marys), the book illuminates her potential for helping the Slovak Roma on their own path from the periphery to the center.

Mary In Our Life: An Atlas of the Names and Titles of Mary, The Mother of Jesus, and Their Place in Marian Devotion presents the 1,969 names, titles, and appellations used to identify the Blessed Virgin Mary over the centuries in terms of their history and related events. Within these titles and their history can be seen the official and private attitudes and prejudices of the times; government pressures, conflicts, and interdictions; internal problems within the Catholic Church; and startling examples of dedication, devotion, and piety. Taken together, Marian titles are a real-life story of the Catholic faith.

Christianity in Asia explores the history, development, and current state of

Christianity across the world's largest and most populous continent. Offers detailed coverage of the growth of Christianity within South Asia; among the thousands of islands comprising Southeast Asia; and across countries whose Christian origins were historically linked, including Vietnam, Thailand, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Japan, and Korea Brings together a truly international team of contributors, many of whom are natives of the countries they are writing about Considers the Middle Eastern countries whose Christian roots are deepest, yet have turbulent histories and uncertain futures Explores the ways in which Christians in Asian countries have received and transformed Christianity into their local or indigenous religion Shows Christianity to be a vibrant contemporary movement in many Asian countries, despite its comparatively minority status in these regions

The Christian religion suffered three schisms during its two-thousand-year history. Orthodox, Protestant, and Anglican schisms occurred in succession. The Protestant schism resulted in the most significant change to how Christians worship. Catholics and Protestants have the same core Christian beliefs. However, their worship practices are very different. Currently, Catholics and Protestants have difficulty even talking about those differences. It seems like they speak in two different languages, and neither side can understand the other. In

Crossing the Schism, author John D. Smatlak explains how Catholics and Protestants can reconcile their differences with a new way of approaching the Word. Although Smatlak was raised in a Protestant Fundamentalist church and joined congregations from a variety of Protestant denominations, he also attended many Catholic church services. Because of that broad experience, he successfully crossed the schism between Catholics and Protestants. Though he remains Protestant, he learned to speak both languages. By first unlearning some false beliefs, both Catholics and Protestants can accept that there are different ways to worship the same Christ. Crossing the Schism exposes the false beliefs and uncovers forgotten truths, building bridges of Christian love and understanding. Because it's only when you learn about the perspectives of other Christians, that you more fully understand your own Christian beliefs and grow stronger in your faith.

Studying the various movements among women in the Catholic Church in Asia, the author argues that the preexisting male-dominated church rooted in the colonial era is now being challenged to recentralize itself and exercises an inclusive and participatory ecclesiology in which women should become fuller members of the church and participate in the decision-making processes of the church. For only when the church in Asia discovers and recognizes the richness

of women's potential, leadership, charisma, and vision, will it be able to witness to the Gospel values and fulfill its vision of mission in Asia. The author shows that Asian Catholic women have played and continue to play a crucial role in designing and carrying out multiple areas of the church's ministries that men failed to do. Furthermore, the author shows that through the interactions and dialogue with Asian bishops in recent decades, Asian Catholic women have gradually influenced the Asian bishops' consciousness of women's issues and concerns.

How did a culturally diverse world church emerge in our local neighborhoods and backyards? Rather than an accidental coincidence, diversity in our country, neighborhoods and pews was intentionally brought about through the Spirit's prompting of historical events. The jubilee of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) reminded us how the Catholic Church opened her doors to the world, while the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965 revealed how the U.S. opened her shores to migrants around the world. Through both ecclesial and legislative reforms, the U.S. became home to many ethnically diverse people and allowed for the creation of a worship space incorporating their cultural backgrounds.

This book examines how the racialization of religion facilitates the diasporic

formation of ethnic Vietnamese in the U.S. and Cambodia, two communities that have been separated from one another for nearly 30 years. It compares devotion to female religious figures in two minority religions, the Virgin Mary among the Catholics and the Mother Goddess among the Caodaists. Visual culture and institutional structures are examined within both communities. Thien-Huong Ninh invites a critical re-thinking of how race, gender, and religion are proxies for understanding, theorizing, and addressing social inequalities within global contexts.

In November 1963, the president of South Vietnam and his brother were brutally executed in a coup that was sanctioned and supported by the American government. President Kennedy later explained to his close friend Paul “Red” Fay that the reason the United States made the fateful decision to get rid of the Ngos was in no small part because of South Vietnam's first lady, Madame Nhu. “That goddamn bitch,” Fay remembers President Kennedy saying, “She's responsible ... that bitch stuck her nose in and boiled up the whole situation down there.” The coup marked the collapse of the Diem government and became the US entry point for a decade-long conflict in Vietnam. Kennedy's death and the atrocities of the ensuing war eclipsed the memory of Madame Nhu—with her daunting mixture of fierceness and beauty. But at the time, to David Halberstam,

she was “the beautiful but diabolic sex dictatress,” and Malcolm Browne called her “the most dangerous enemy a man can have.” By 1987, the once-glamorous celebrity had retreated into exile and seclusion, and remained there until young American Monique Demery tracked her down in Paris thirty years later. Finding the Dragon Lady is Demery's story of her improbable relationship with Madame Nhu, and—having ultimately been entrusted with Madame Nhu's unpublished memoirs and her diary from the years leading up to the coup—the first full history of the Dragon Lady herself, a woman who was feared and fantasized over in her time, and who singlehandedly frustrated the government of one of the world's superpowers.

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